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DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

# Annual Report

of the

## Health of Dronfield

for

1945.

By JOHN REID GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

# ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 1945.

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MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith present the Annual Report for 1945.

The vital statistics are very satisfactory indeed. The infantile mortality is NIL—a most phenomenal occurrence, also the maternal mortality rate is NIL. The birth rate remains high at 22.52 per 1000 compared with 16.1 for the country as a whole. There were no cases of puerperal pyrexia notified.

Again Dronfield has been conspicuously free from the ordinary infectious diseases though there was a slight epidemic of measles.

A Ministry of Health inquiry was held on the proposed new sewage scheme. It is to be hoped that the work will be put in hand with as little delay as possible. As you know the main works are obsolete and inadequate and some of the minor schemes in operation, especially at Dronfield Woodhouse, are of a most primitive description, and in this district it may be that the Council will be ready to build houses but will have no means of sewage disposal.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN R. GRAHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

### Birth Rate.

22.52 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

22.83 per 1,000 (Live and Still) births.

### Death Rate.

12.93 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

### Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

From Sepsis, Nil.

From Other Causes, Nil.

### Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	Nil.
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births...				Nil.
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births...				Nil.
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)		...	...	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)			...	Nil.

### Births in the Dronfield Urban District.

Live Births.	Males: Total 73—Legitimate 67, Illegitimate 6.
	Females: Total 75—Legitimate 72, Illegitimate 3.
Still Births.	Males: Total 2—Legitimate 2, Illegitimate Nil.
	Females: Total Nil—Legitimate Nil, Illegitimate Nil.

### Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

Nil.

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The situation shows little change from the previous year, but it is likely that in 1946 the housing of the worst cases of overcrowding, etc., will have a good start; there is, however, still the hopeless frustrated feeling when called to see properties in such a dilapidated condition that despite the fact that some poor folk have to put up with the conditions it is a sheer waste of time, material and labour to start patching, and the only remedy is demolition. As yet no indication has been given when demolition of unfit properties will recommence, but five years from this date is probably the earliest.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

Table showing the number of specimens sent from the Urban District of Dronfield and examined at the County Laboratory, Derby.

								Positive	Negative
Enterica : Typhoid, Para-Typhoid	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	4
A. and B.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Gaertner, Dysentery, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	4
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5
Plithisis...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	7
Water	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Milk — T.B. Inoculation, sent by the Ministry of									
Agriculture	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	10
T.B. Inoculation, Routine Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Methylene Blue Test	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Bacillus Coli	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Bacterial Count.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
								2	34
								2	34

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

**Scarlet Fever.** Twelve cases were notified as compared with 27 in the previous year, there were no deaths.

**Diphtheria.** Two cases were notified compared with nine in 1944. There were no deaths.

**Measles.** 124 cases were notified with two deaths.

There were no notifications of typhoid or cerebro-spinal fever.

Disease	Total Number Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox ... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	12	9	—
Diphtheria ... ..	2	1	—
Enteric Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	4	1	11
Erysipelas ... ..	5	—	—
Polio-myelitis ... ..	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ..	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	—	—	—
Undulant Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Measles ... ..	124	—	—
Whooping Cough ... ..	5	—	—

## IMMUNISATION.

During the year 35 children were immunized against Diphtheria.

## OPHTHALMIA NEONATORIIUM.

There was no case of Ophthalmia Neonatorium during the year.

## TUBERCULOSIS RETURN FOR 1945.

AGE PERIOD	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and over ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
5 and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 and over ...	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
35 and over ...	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
45 and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 and over ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
65 and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
TOTAL	3	1	2	1	1	2	2	2

  

Cases included above ...	Not Primary				Not Notified			
...	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—

# Birth Rates, Civilian Death-Rates, Analysis of Mortality, for the year 1945.

		England and Wales.	126 C.B's. and great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resi- dent Popula- tion 25,000— 50,000, at 1931 Census	London Adm. County.	Dronfield U.D.C.
RATES PER 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION.						
Live Births ...	...	16.1	19.1	19.2	15.7	22.52
Still Births ...	...	0.46	0.58	0.53	0.40	0.30
Deaths :—						
All causes ...	...	11.4	13.5	12.3	13.8	12.92
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever ...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15
Whooping Cough ...	...	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.00
Diphtheria ...	...	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00
Influenza ...	...	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.00
Smallpox ...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles ...	...	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00
RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.						
Deaths under 1 year of age ...	...	46	54	43	53	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ...	...	5.6	7.8	4.5	7.6	Nil.
RATES PER 1,000 CIVILIAN POPULATION.						
Notifications :—						
Typhoid Fever ...	...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever ...	...	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.00
Scarlet Fever ...	...	1.89	2.02	2.03	1.57	1.82
Whooping Cough ...	...	1.64	1.65	1.47	1.25	0.76
Diphtheria ...	...	0.46	0.52	0.56	0.31	0.30
Erysipelas ...	...	0.25	0.28	0.24	0.31	0.76
Smallpox ...	...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles ...	...	11.67	10.89	11.19	9.03	18.87
Pneumonia ...	...	0.87	1.03	0.72	0.78	0.60
RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL BIRTHS (LIVE AND STILL).						
Notifications—						
Puerperal Fever		9.93	12.65	8.81	3.60	0.00
Puerperal Pyrexia					15.87	



**CAUSES OF DEATH in the DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT  
during 1945.**

				Male	Female
All causes	...	...	...	48	37
Typhoid and Parat. Fevers	...	...	...	0	0
Cerebro-spinal Fevers	...	...	...	0	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	0	0
Diphtheria	...	...	...	0	0
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	2	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	1	1
Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	0	0
Influenza	...	...	...	0	0
Measles	...	...	...	0	0
Ac. Polio-myel. and Polio-enceph.	...	...	...	0	0
Ac. Inf. Enceph.	...	...	...	0	0
Cancer of Buc. Cav. and Oesoph (M) Uterus (F)	...	...	...	0	0
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	0	1
Cancer of Breast	...	...	...	0	0
Cancer of other sites	...	...	...	2	4
Diabetes	...	...	...	0	0
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	...	...	...	6	6
Heart disease	...	...	...	13	12
Other dis. of circulatory system	...	...	...	1	0
Bronchitis	...	...	...	3	0
Pneumonia	...	...	...	5	2
Other resp. dis.	...	...	...	0	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	...	...	...	1	0
Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	...	0	0
Appendicitis	...	...	...	0	0
Other Digestive diseases	...	...	...	1	3
Nephritis	...	...	...	4	4
Puer. and Post-Abortion Sepsis	...	...	...	0	0
Other Maternal causes	...	...	...	0	0
Premature Birth	...	...	...	0	0
Con. Mal. Birth Inj. Infant Dis.	...	...	...	0	0
Suicide	...	...	...	0	1
Road Traffic Accident	...	...	...	2	0
Other violent causes	...	...	...	0	0
All other causes	...	...	...	6	0

# SCABIES ORDER, 1941.

## POOLSBROOK TREATMENT CENTRE.

During the year a total of 2,268 patients attended the centre for treatment for scabies or verminous heads.

A table of the cases is appended.

SCABIES.—				Adults.	5—15 yrs.	Under 5 yrs.	Total.
Chesterfield R.D.C.	...	...		564	347	148	1059
Clay Cross U.D.C.	...	...		68	28	11	107
Clowne R.D.C.	...	...		146	66	37	249
Dronfield U.D.C.	...	...		19	13	7	39
Staveley U.D.C.	...	...		176	87	37	300
				973	541	240	1754

HEAD LICE—				Adults.	5—15 yrs.	Under 5 yrs.	Total.
Chesterfield R.D.C.	...	...		10(9)	128(121)	22(21)	160(151)
Clay Cross U.D.C.	...	...		3(2)	7(7)	—	10(9)
Clowne R.D.C.	...	...		6(6)	44(40)	5(3)	55(49)
Dronfield U.D.C.	...	...		—	1(1)	—	1(1)
Staveley U.D.C.	...	...		7(6)	84(78)	17(16)	108(100)
				26(23)	264(247)	44(40)	334(310)

SCABIES with VERMINOUS HEADS—				Adults.	5—15 years.	Under 5 yrs.	Total.
Chesterfield R.D.C.	...	...		27(27)	86(74)	18(11)	131(112)
Clay Cross U.D.C.	...	...		—	2(2)	—	2(2)
Clowne R.D.C.	...	...		3(3)	18(15)	5(4)	26(22)
Dronfield U.D.C.	...	...		2(2)	2(2)	—	4(4)
Staveley U.D.C.	...	...		3(2)	18(15)	6(4)	27(21)
				35(34)	126(108)	29(19)	190(161)

Add 113 cases Diagnosis NOT confirmed.

62 „ Miscellaneous

4 „ Ped. Corporis (2 Chesterfield, 2 Dronfield - all adults)

1 „ „ Pubis.

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180

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During the year a total of 2088 cases were treated at the centre. This shows a decrease of 613 cases over the year. The decrease is entirely due to the number of cases coming for scabies treatment, 2378 being treated in 1944 as against 1754 in 1945. With regard to the cases sent with verminous heads 334 were sent in 1945 compared with 333 in 1944.



## SCABIES ORDER, 1941.

### POOLSBROOK TREATMENT CENTRE—*continued.*

The proportion of persons sent as scabies and found to be infested is comparable to the proportions in the previous year.

The figures indicate that while scabies has markedly decreased there is no sign that infestation of heads is decreasing, rather the reverse as the number of cases treated in 1943 (the first complete year of working) was only 185.

During the year several inquiries were undertaken.

D.D.T. which is now very well known to the general public, has been tried for verminous head infestations at the Centre. The results were not satisfactory.

Two inquiries have been conducted for Professor Kenneth Mellanby of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Both of these were concerned with an alternative method of treatment for scabies. In neither case was there any advantage over the present method.

The results of the investigations of louse populations in cases with verminous heads have now been published. An article in the "Medical Officer" for 10th June, 1945, gave full details. The most important findings were that: over 90% of those with nits also have live lice; over half of those infested have a louse population of more than ten, and 10% have more than 100 lice each. The age-groups showing the heaviest infestation also have the largest number of lice. One interesting conclusion was that the lighter the nit infestation and the greater the ratio between immature stages of lice and adults. It is not to be assumed because there are 'only a few nits' that no lice are present: a small infestation is merely the forerunner of a much heavier infestation. The importance is stressed of the earliest treatment once nits are found.

## WATER SUPPLIES.

The water supplies are adequate for the present needs. In common with other authorities, however, the Urban Area will in the future require much larger supplies for two main reasons. Firstly all the new houses which will be built will have baths and W.Cs. Those which are scheduled for demolition will in most cases lack these amenities, this in itself will cause a sharp rise in consumption.

Secondly most of the new houses (it is hoped) will have a constant hot water supply owing to increased efficiency of heating system. This also will increase consumption and the basic figure taken by suppliers to be ample for the needs of the district will require to be increased.

Sampling Authority	Total Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Doubtful
Dronfield U.D.C.	8	8	Nil.	
North East Derbyshire Joint Committee	324	246	78	

# SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

Sanitary Inspector: S. N. PYCROFT.

Area of district : 3,457 acres. Estimated number of houses : 1,952.  
No new houses were built during 1945.

	No. of inspections made by Sanitary Inspector.	No. of Notices Served.		No. of Nuisances abated with or without notice.
		Informal	Legal.	
<b>Closets and Ashpits.</b>				
Defective Privies, Pail Closets and Ashpits (not for conversion) ...	4	1	—	1
Conversion of Privies into W.C.'s ...	50	—	—	—
Conversion of Pail Closets into W.C.'s ...	10	—	—	—
Conversion of Privies into Pail Closets ...	6	—	—	—
Defective Water Closets ...	16	3	1	4
Provision of additional W.C.'s ...	4	—	—	—
Provision of Portable Ashbins ...	60	57	19	32
Dirty Closets ...	2	1	—	1
<b>Drainage.</b>				
No disconnection of waste pipe ...	—	—	—	—
Defective waste pipe, Traps, Inlets and Drains ...	20	7	1	8
Drains obstructed ...	40	17	—	16
<b>Other Defects.</b>				
Paving of Courts and Yards ...	—	—	—	—
Roofs, Eaves-Spouts and Downspouts ...	30	12	—	12
Sinks ...	—	—	—	—
Insufficient Ventilation ...	—	—	—	—
Windows ...	6	3	—	2
Dampness ...	9	—	—	—
Water in Cellars ...	3	—	—	—
Water Supply ...	31	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—
Foul Condition of Houses ...	4	2	—	2
Offensive Accumulations ...	—	—	—	—
Animals improperly kept ...	—	—	—	—
Pigsties ...	5	1	—	1
Smoke Nuisances ...	2	1	—	1
Urinals ...	4	1	—	1
Nuisances not specified above ...	45	24	—	23
	351	130	21	104

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

No. Premises served  
at end of 1945.

Privy Middens	...	...	...	...	...	...	167
Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Water Closets	...	...	...	..	...	...	1751
Total							1952

## SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

	No. on Register.	Inspections made.	Notices Served.	Nuisances abated with or without notice.
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	26	—	—	—
Bakehouses ... ..	3	—	—	—
Slaughter-houses ... ..	5	6	—	—
Offensive Trades ... ..	—	—	—	—
Common Lodging Houses ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	34	6	—	—